

WAC 197-11-970 Determination of nonsignificance (DNS).

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal: The purpose of this project is to restore approximately 55 acres of diked wetland in the southern Willapa Bay estuary to historic tidal marsh conditions. The site was previously estuarine tidal marsh habitat located at the mouth of Tarlatt Slough

This restoration will re-establish high salt marsh and associated tidal channels and restore ecological processes providing mitigation for future WSDOT projects that are anticipated to have unavoidable impacts to wetlands within Willapa Bay Watershed (WRIA 24).

The project includes:

Removal of the perimeter dike that disconnects the site from the natural marsh plain and tidal channel network associated with the mouth of Tarlatt Slough.

Re-establish the grade and connections of the historic tidal network on the interior of the site and fill borrow ditches and drainage ditches to restore the natural topography of the site.

Removal of invasive species from the site.

Construct a berm along the adjacent property owner's driveway to the West to ensure that there is no increased potential for flooding as a result of this restoration project.

Proponent: Washington State Department of Transportation.

Location of proposal, including street address, if any: The project is located in Pacific County Sections 2, 3, 10 and 11 of Township 10N, Range 11 W.

Lead agency: Washington State Department of Transportation.

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this DNS.

☐ This DNS is issued after using the optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355. There is no further comment period on the DNS.

X This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below. Comments must be submitted by .. 3/24/10 ..

Responsible official: Barb Aberle

Position/title: Regional Environmental Manager

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Date: 3/5/10

Signature

Barbara Aberle